

Message Text

SECRET

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

S E C R E T STATE 065546

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 65546 ACTION DUBLIN LISBON MAR 23

QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 065546

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

OVIP KISSINGER HENRY A.

TAGS: OVIP KISSINGER HENRY A.

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY ON PORTUGAL

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY ON PORTUGAL

REF.: STATE 065496 SECTO 510

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

YOU SHOULD ARRANGE FOR DELIVERY TO FOREIGN

MINISTER SOONEST OF FOLLOWING PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE

SECRETARY; BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. MINISTER:

-- I AM INSTRUCTING AMBASSADOR CARLUCCI

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TO SEE PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES IN LISBON ON MARCH 23, OR

NO LATER THAN MARCH 24, TO EXPRESS CONCERN OVER DEVELOPMENTS IN PORTUGAL. SPECIFICALLY, I AM ASKING HIM TO CONVEY

-- OUR CONCERN ABOUT THE LEFTIST CONSOLIDATION OF POWER IN PORTUGAL, THE REPORTED IMPENDING APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL COMMUNIST MINISTERS, INCLUDING MINISTER OF INTERIOR, AS WELL AS THE IMPRESSION THAT A RADICAL MILITARY DICTATORSHIP IS BEING ESTABLISHED.

--OUR BELIEF THAT THESE DEVELOPMENTS WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE CHARACTER OF THE ALLIANCE AND FUNDAMENTALLY CHANGE PORTUGAL'S RELATIONSHIP TO ITS ALLIES.

-- THE FACT THAT THE ALLIES HAVE NOTED PORTUGAL'S STATEMENT THAT INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND TREATIES WILL BE HONORED, BUT THAT THEY ARE DISTURBED BY STRIDENT ANTI-WESTERN STATEMENTS.

-- THAT THE ALLIES HAVE ALSO CONSISTENTLY DEMONSTRATED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE PORTUGUESE REVOLUTION TO BRING NEW INSTITUTIONS OF GOVERNMENT BASED ON A FREE CHOICE OF THE PORTUGUESE PEOPLE; IN THIS CONNECTION WE ATTACH SPECIAL IMPORTANCE TO UPCOMING CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS.

-- OUR OBJECTION TO ANY PERSONAL ATTACKS ON THE UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR AND TO ANY STATEMENT ALLEGING OR INSINUATING THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, OR THE UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR, WAS INVOLVED IN ANY WAY IN THE ABORTIVE COUP ATTEMPT OR THAT THE UNITED STATES IS INTERVENING IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF PORTUGAL.

-- OUR CONCERN AT REPORTS OF VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATION, AND THEIR POTENTIAL EFFECT ON THE POSSIBILITIES FOR FREE CHOICE BY THE PORTUGUESE PEOPLE AND OUR HOPE THAT THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT WILL DEAL MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH THE PROBLEM.

-- THAT A STRONG EXPECTATION WAS RAISED THROUGHOUT THE WEST THAT THE CHANGE IN THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT
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TEN MONTHS AGO WOULD LEAD TO FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY IN PORTUGAL, AND THAT THE WEST -- OF WHICH PORTUGAL IS SO MUCH A PART -- WOULD BE DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED SHOULD PORTUGAL MOVE FROM THE TYRANNY OF THE RIGHT TO A DEEPER TYRANNY OF THE LEFT.

-- I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL IF YOU COULD SEND A MESSAGE ON MARCH 23RD REFLECTING THE CONCERN

OF THE EC-9. SUCH A MESSAGE WOULD CARRY WEIGHT IN
LISBON.

-- MOREOVER, I WOULD ALSO URGE THAT PRIVATE REPRESENTA-
TIONS TO THE POTUGUESE GOVERNMENT BE ACCOMPANIED BY
PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF CONCERN BY GOVERNMENT LEADERS.
I AM ALSO SENDING SIMILAR MESSAGES TO THE FOREIGN
MINISTERS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC
OF GERMANY, FRANCE, BELGIUM AND ITALY. BEST REGARDS.
HENRY A. KISSINGER. END TEXT. INGERSOLL UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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